

Montana Communicable Disease Weekly Update: 02/06/09

DISEASE INFORMATION

Summary – Week 05 – Ending 2/7/09 – Disease reports received at DPHHS during the reporting period February 1 – 7, 2009 included the following conditions: various enteric conditions (campylobacteriosis, giardiasis, salmonellosis), *Haemophilus influenzae B* invasive disease in a newborn (acquired during birth), legionellosis in a traveler, pertussis, rabies in a skunk in Yellowstone County and continued varicella activity. *NOTE: The spreadsheet has multiple pages, each indicated by a tab in the bottom left corner. Tabs on the worksheet reflect the following: (1) vaccine preventable and enteric diseases YTD; (2) other communicable diseases; (3) cases just this week; (4) clusters and outbreaks; and (5) an STD summary.*

UPDATE! Norovirus Activity Statewide – Attached is a report depicting confirmed norovirus testing results from the Montana Public Health Laboratory from 2/1/09 – 2/13/09. Activity is being reported statewide and there have been several institutional clusters (see outbreak page on weekly report). *Please remember to report clusters and outbreaks to CDEpi and assist facilities with outbreaks.* Educational and informational information is available at <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>.

Influenza Surveillance – As of 02/07/09, Montana's influenza activity is REGIONAL. Activity is increasing around the state. As of 02/06/09 there were 85 MPHL PCR confirmed cases (41% A:H1, 24% A:H3 and 35% B) of influenza (see attached report for county details).

Watch the CDEpi web site at <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov> for updates to influenza information for Montana.

Flu season typically peaks in January or later and has been in February or March in 11 of the past 20 seasons. National weekly updates about influenza: <http://www.cdc.gov/flu/weekly/>

UPDATE! Rabies – Winter usually brings a decrease in animal exposures and cases of rabies in animals; however, this year we have continued to confirm cases in animals through the winter. As a reminder, a revised version of the rabies algorithm is attached. The rabies vaccination situation has not changed since October, with Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur) still requiring password release for PEP.

VACCINE SITUATION (2/6/2009)

	Pre-Exposure (PreEP)	Post-Exposure (PEP)
Imovax (Sanofi Pasteur) 1-800-VACCINE	Not Available	Password Release and Completion of <u>Sanofi Form</u> – Contact CD Epi (444-0274) to discuss situation and obtain password
Rabavert (Novartis) 1-800-244-7668	<input type="checkbox"/> Available for higher occupational exposure risk groups (rabies diagnostic lab workers, veterinary staff, animal control, wildlife workers) – can be ordered through the Novartis wholesale distributor (<u>no need for password or form</u>) <input type="checkbox"/> NOT available for general use (e.g., travelers)	<u>No password required</u>

Please refer to the most recent CDC Rabies website update for the latest information regarding the supply status: www.cdc.gov/rabies.

INFORMATION / ANNOUNCEMENTS

Surveillance Snapshot – The most recent issue of the "Surveillance Snapshot" can be found at <http://www.dphhs.mt.gov/PHSD/epidemiology/SurveillanceSnapshots.shtml>. This issue focuses on healthcare provider vaccination for influenza.

UPDATE! Salmonella typhimurium Outbreak – As of 2/13/09, there were 642 in 44 states with the most recent onset date 1/28/09. At this time, there have still been NO confirmed cases in Montana. For updates regarding the outbreak: <http://www.cdc.gov/salmonella/typhimurium/>. For updates to the recall:

<http://www.fda.gov/oc/opacom/hottopics/salmonellatyph.html>. Clinical isolates of *Salmonella* should be forwarded to the Montana Public Health Laboratory for further testing. The Food and Consumer Safety program is working with local sanitarians to conduct effectiveness checks related to the recalls.

REMINDERS

Epi Cell Phones – If you need to be out of state, please call Lydia Bloom at 406.444.0273 *at least one week before you leave* to have out of state cell phone service activated on your phone. This avoids unnecessary roaming charges. *Please do not use 411 connect (\$1.25 for each connection) or download ringtones and/or other things to your state provided phone.* Thanks for your assistance!

24/7 Availability – Did you know that the Epidemiology program has a phone line that is answered 24 hours a day/7days a week/365 days a year? Please call 406.444.0273 if you need immediate epidemiology assistance or consultation! The answering service will take a message and we will return the call as quickly as possible.

This newsletter is produced by the Montana Communicable Disease Epidemiology Program. Questions regarding its content should be directed to 406.444.0273 (24/7/365). For more information: <http://cdepi.hhs.mt.gov>.